

Sacramento Hospital.

BING CROSBY

SHEPPERTON STUDIOS.

SHEPPERTON, MIDDX.

CHERTSEY 2611

October 10, 1961

His Grace, Archbishop McQuaid
Archbishop's Palace
DUBLIN
Ireland.

Your Grace:

Possibly by this time you have had some correspondence and accompanying material from Bishop McGucken of the Sacramento, California Diocese relating to a hospital project which has engaged my efforts and attention for several years now.

At the inception of the project, on two occasions I took variety shows up there and raised some money for the construction of this hospital, a facility which was badly needed in the area because no other such institution was within 65 miles of the community and sometimes, in the Winter, these 65 miles could present formidable difficulties.

The hospital has now been finished and although it is a small one, it is adequate and is well equipped, but our efforts to find someone to staff the hospital have been futile. It was Bishop McGucken's suggestion that there might be a possibility of getting some Sisters from Ireland to come and operate the hospital. He also asked that I write you and tell you of my interest in the venture.

I can tell you that it is a very attractive area in the mountains of North California, the weather is not too rigorous and the local Board would do everything in their power to make the Sisters comfortable and to keep things in smooth order. I can fully appreciate that it is a long journey and a very serious undertaking for a group of Sisters, but I can assure you

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that I will make it a personal obligation of mine to see that everything is in order and stays that way.

Would you be kind enough to advise me, when time allows, whether or not this project is at all feasible.

In the meantime, I have the honour to remain, My Lord Archbishop,

Most respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bing Crosby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bing" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Crosby".

BING CROSBY

BC:js

C o p y

Lampert.

2 November 1961.

Dear Mr Crosby,

I have delayed in answering your letter concerning the staffing of your Hospital at Sacramento, because your letter gave me to understand that the Bishop would write me.

He has not written.

I see a possibility of finding Irish Sisters of Mercy from Dublin.

The Mother-General, Reverend Mother Mary Gabriel, has just left for Birmingham, Alabama. I asked her to think of going over to see Bishop McGucken.

I should appreciate your courtesy in notifying the Bishop, for as only you have approached me, I can scarcely write the Bishop.

I am glad to help you.

Yours very sincerely,

+ John B. McQuinn,

Archbishop of Dublin,
etc.

Bing Crosby, Esq.,
Shepperton,
Middx.

Mother Gabriel's address enclosed.

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My dear Reverend Mother,

When you are out there, could you fly over to see Bishop McGucken of Sacramento concerning the Hospital Mr Bing Crosby wrote me about. It is not far. You need not make any promises. I have written Mr Bing Crosby.

My kind wishes to the Archbishop and Mgr. Cullen.

Yours very sincerely in Xt.,

+ John B. McQuaid.

(Reverend Mother Gabriel,
Superior-General,
at 621 Idlewild Circle,
Birmingham 5,
Alabama, U.S.A.)